

**Town of Hopkinton, New Hampshire
Annual Town Meeting Warrant
March 8 & 19, 2011**

SS: State of New Hampshire

Merrimack County

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Hopkinton, in the County of Merrimack, in the said State, who are qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Hopkinton High School Gymnasium, 297 Park Avenue, Contoocook, on Tuesday, March 8, 2011 beginning at 7:00 a.m. to act upon the following subjects:

The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Article 1: To chose all necessary Town Officers by ballot and majority vote for the ensuing year as enumerated:

2 Selectmen	3 Year Term each
1 Treasurer	3 Year Term
2 Budget Committee	3 Year Term each
2 Library Trustee	3 Year Term each
1 Cemetery Trustee	3 Year Term
1 Trustee of Trust Funds	3 Year Term

Article 2: To see what action the Town will take with respect to the following proposed amendments to the Hopkinton Zoning Ordinance by ballot vote upon the following questions:

1. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board (6-0) for the Town of Hopkinton Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Amend Section VII. Sign Ordinance by repealing the current Sign Ordinance and replacing it with a new ordinance entitles the same. The new ordinance addresses signs prohibited, signs allowed and exempt from permit requirements, signs requiring permits, design, construction and maintenance of signs, non-residential lot signage plan, sign area and height computations, signs permitted in residential and non-residential districts, signs for multiple principal uses or building on a lot, free-standing directory signs, temporary off-premises signs, agriculture and farming signs, sign illumination, architectural design review, and change of tenet signs.

(The Planning Board recommends this amendment).

Yes _____ No _____

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2. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board (6-0) for the Town of Hopkinton Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Amend Section II. Definitions by replacing the current definitions of various signs with new definition so that the language coincides with the types of signage referenced in amended Section VII of the Zoning Ordinance. This amendment will also include a definition of the word "person" and will require the renumbering of all subsequent definitions.
(The Planning Board recommends this amendment).

Yes _____ No _____

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Hopkinton, in the County of Merrimack, in the said State, who are qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Hopkinton High School Gymnasium, 297 Park Avenue, Contoocook, on Saturday, March 19, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. to act upon the following subjects:

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the budget committee's recommended amount of \$ 1,014,625 for General Government Operations.

(Majority vote required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (5-0)).

(The Budget Committee recommends this article (9-0)).

<u>General Government Functions</u>	<u>Budget Committee and Selectmen</u>
Executive	\$ 226,055
Election, Registrations, Vital Stats. & Tax Coll.	260,297
Financial Administration	119,207
Assessing	57,800
Legal	28,500
Personnel Administration	22,500
Planning & Zoning Departments	116,713
Cemeteries	43,524
Insurance	138,029
Economic Development Committee	<u>2,000</u>
TOTAL	\$ 1,014,625

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the budget committee's recommended amount of \$ 1,466,105 for Public Safety Operations.

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (5-0)).

(Budget Committee recommends this article (9-0)).

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Public Safety Operations

Police Department
Animal Control
Ambulance
Fire Department
Rescue Squad
Emergency Management
TOTAL

Budget Committee and Selectmen

\$ 670,249
7,255
539,713
240,112
8,775
1
\$ 1,466,105

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the budget committee's recommended amount of \$2,112,536 for Public Works Operations.

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (5-0)).

(The Budget Committee recommends this article (9-0)).

Public Works Operations

Highway Administration
Highways & Streets
Buildings & Grounds
Street Lighting
Transfer Station Operations
Landfill Maintenance & Monitoring
Sewer Department
TOTAL

Budget Committee and Selectmen

\$ 566,873
632,000
226,083
1,800
534,325
47,500
103,955
\$ 2,112,536

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the budget committee's recommended amount of \$ 123,489 for Health and Human Services Operations.

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (5-0)).

(The Budget Committee recommends this article (9-0)).

Health & Human Services Operations

Community Action Program (CAP)
Human Services Administration
Human Services Vendors
TOTAL

Budget Committee and Selectmen

\$ 5,552
65,687
52,250
\$ 123,489

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the budget committee's recommended amount of \$ 123,593 for Recreation Operations.

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (5-0)).

(The Budget Committee recommends this article (9-0)).

Recreation Operations

Recreation Department
Patriotic Purposes
TOTAL

Budget Committee and Selectmen

\$ 120,843
2,750
\$ 123,593

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the budget committee's recommended amount of \$ 281,265 for the Hopkinton Library.

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (5-0)).

(The Budget Committee recommends this article (9-0)).

Library Operations

Hopkinton Library

TOTAL

Budget Committee and Selectmen

\$ 281,265

\$ 281,265

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the budget committee's recommended amount of \$ 1 for Conservation.

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (5-0)).

(The Budget Committee recommends this article (9-0)).

Conservation

Conservation Commission

TOTAL

Budget Committee and Selectmen

\$ 1

\$ 1

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the budget committee's recommended amount of \$ 400,152 for payment of Principle and Interest of long term debt.

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (5-0)).

(The Budget Committee recommends this article (9-0)).

Long-term Debt & TAN Interest

Principle – Bonds and Notes

Interest – Bonds and Notes

Interest – TAN

TOTAL

Budget Committee and Selectmen

\$ 291,363

106,789

2,000

\$ 400,152

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to amend the purpose of the Public Safety Services Revolving Fund established pursuant to RSA 31:95-h I (c) in March 2006 such that the purpose shall be for public safety special details and fire and police vehicle replacement. All revenues received for public safety special details will be deposited into the fund and the money in the fund shall be allowed to accumulate from year to year, and shall not be considered part of the town's general fund unreserved fund balance. The town treasurer shall have custody of all moneys in the fund, and shall pay out the same only upon order of the selectmen and no further approval is required by the legislative body to expend. Such funds may be expended only for the purpose as stated in this article.

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (5-0)).

(The Budget Committee recommends this article (9-0)).

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three hundred twenty-seven thousand (\$ 327,000) to be placed in previously established Capital Reserve funds. \$224,000 to come from fund balance (surplus) and the remainder to be raised from taxation. Funds to be placed in the Capital Reserve Funds as follows:

<u>Capital Reserve Accounts</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Fire Vehicles and Equipment	\$ 105,000
Public Works Vehicles and Equipment	115,000
Police Radio Replacement	7,000
Replacement of Transfer Station Equipment	25,000
Police Cruiser and Accessories Equipment	25,000
Expansion of the Highway Garage	17,000
Library Replacement Building Systems	15,000
Town Hall Renovations	9,000
Sludge Removal	<u>9,000</u>
TOTAL	\$327,000

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (5-0)).

(Budget Committee recommends this article (9-0)).

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000) to be placed in previously established Expendable General Trust Funds as follows:

<u>Expendable General Trust Funds</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Hopkinton Library Technology	\$ 5,000
Recreation Facilities	2,000
Library Building/Grounds	<u>5,000</u>
TOTAL	\$ 12,000

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (5-0)).

(The Budget Committee recommends this article (9-0)).

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty-eight thousand, nine hundred sixty-five dollars (\$58,965) for the purpose of offsetting the cost of collection and disposal of residential solid waste and such other direct costs as budgeted annually and to authorize the withdrawal of this sum from the Pay by Bag Fund (Revenue Fund) established for this purpose at the 2010 town meeting to fund this appropriation. No funds to be raised by taxation.

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (5-0)).

(Budget Committee recommends this article (9-0)).

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to rescind Article 19 as amended that was approved at the March 2010 Hopkinton Town Meeting. Passage of this new 2011 warrant article will end the so called "Pay by Bag" trash disposal program in its entirety. Cancellation of "Pay by Bag" will become effective on April 15, 2011.

Submitted by Petition

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen does not recommend this article (5-0)).

Article 16: A petitioned article to rescind the "pay by bag" solid waste disposal program which was passed as Article 19 at the 2010 Town Meeting. This program would be rescinded and shall be brought forward again only when and if all parties using the Hopkinton/Webster transfer station would participate.

Submitted by Petition

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen does not recommend this article (5-0)).

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to set the price of the official Pay-by-Bag bags as follows:

13 gallon bags \$ 0.75

33 gallon bags \$ 1.25

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (5-0)).

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred sixty-seven thousand dollars (\$167,000) to pay off the Bohanan Farm open space loan. This sum to come from fund balance (surplus) and no amount to be raised from taxation.

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (5-0)).

(Budget Committee recommends this article (9-0)).

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred nine thousand seventy-four dollars (\$109,074) to purchase and install an emergency back-up power generator at the Hopkinton Middle/High School which serves as the community shelter and regional point of distribution (POD). Half this sum (\$54,537) to come from a grant from the NH Department of Safety, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management with the other half (\$54,537) to come from fund balance (surplus) and no amount to be raised from taxation. Expenditure of these funds is contingent upon final grant approval and authorization.

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (3-2)).

(Budget Committee recommends this article (9-0)).

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to modify the Elderly Exemptions from property tax in the Town of Hopkinton based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: For a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$60,000; For a person 75 years of age up to 80 years, \$80,000; For a person 80 years of age or older, \$100,000. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for 5 consecutive years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 consecutive years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$30,000 or, if married, a combined net income of not more than \$40,000; and own net assets not in excess of \$150,000 (excluding the value of the person's residence).

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (5-0)).

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the following Capital Reserve Funds with said funds with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, to be transferred to the Town's general fund.

<u>Capital Reserve Fund</u>	<u>Date Established</u>	<u>Amount in Fund</u>
Expansion Construction of Old Hopkinton Cemetery	March 14, 2009	\$ 1.00
Construction at Blackwater Cemetery	March 13, 2002	5,947.00
Contoocook Village Cemetery Improvements	March 10, 2004	23,289.00
TOTAL		\$ 29,237.00

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (5-0)).

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provision of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of cemetery maintenance, construction and expansion and to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-nine thousand, two hundred thirty-seven (\$ 29,237) to be placed in this fund, and appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from this fund.

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (5-0)).

(The Budget Committee recommends this article (9-0)).

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Ambulance Services Revolving fund created in 2006. Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal are to be transferred to the town's general fund. Approximate amount in fund is \$ 4,003.

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (5-0)).

Article 24: To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of replacement and equipping of an ambulance, to raise and appropriate fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to be placed in this fund, and to appoint the selectmen as agents to expend from this fund.

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (5-0)).

(The Budget Committee recommends this article (9-0)).

Article 25: To see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of the existing Replacement of Transfer Station Equipment Capital Reserve Fund (established March 14, 2001) to the Transfer Station Equipment and Facilities Capital Reserve Fund and to appoint the selectmen as agents to expend from said fund.

(2/3 Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (5-0)).

Article 26: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of nine hundred sixty dollars (\$960) for the purpose of offsetting operational and maintenance costs of the Slusser Senior Center and to authorize the withdrawal of this sum from the Senior Center Rental Fund (Revenue Fund) established for this purpose at the 2009 town meeting to fund this appropriation. No funds to be raised by taxation.

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (5-0)).

(Budget Committee recommends this article (9-0)).

Article 27: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey a conservation easement deed to Five Rivers Conservation Trust for property owned by the Town, known as the Rice lot, and totaling approximately 210 acres, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deem to be in the best interest of the Town.

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (5-0)).

Article 28. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey a conservation easement deed to the New Hampshire Audubon Society or other suitable organization for property owned by the Town, known as the Beyer lot, and totaling approximately 14.2 acres, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deem to be in the best interest of the Town.

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (5-0)).

Article 29. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey a conservation easement deed to Five Rivers Conservation Trust for property owned by the Town, known as the Rollins lot, and totaling approximately 46.78 acres, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deem to be in the best interest of the Town.

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (5-0)).

Article 30: To see if the Town will vote to ratify the conveyance of a conservation easement executed on June 5, 2006 to Five Rivers Conservation Trust on the "Carson property", such property being conveyed to the Town of Hopkinton on January 11, 2005.

The Conservation Easement Deed was executed on June 5, 2006 by the Board of Selectmen who believed they had authority to execute the deed: passage of this warrant article will create such authority after the fact.

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (4-0-1)).

Article 31: To see if the Town will vote to ratify the conveyance of a conservation easement executed on June 5, 2006 by the Hopkinton Board of Selectmen to Five Rivers Conservation Trust on the "Harris/Myron" property, such property being conveyed to the Town of Hopkinton on November 15, 2005.

The Conservation Easement Deed was executed on June 5, 2006 by the Board of Selectmen who believed they had authority to execute the deed: passage of this warrant article will create such authority after the fact.

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (5-0)).

Article 32: To see if the Town will vote to ratify the conveyance of a conservation easement executed on October 5, 2006 by the Hopkinton Board of Selectmen to Five Rivers Conservation Trust on the "Ransmeier" property, such property being conveyed to the Town of Hopkinton on October 5, 2006.

The Conservation Easement Deed was executed on October 5, 2006 by the Board of Selectmen who believed they had authority to execute the deed: passage of this warrant article will create such authority after the fact.

(Majority Vote Required).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends this article (5-0)).

Article 33: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 4,000 in the interest of public health and safety to provide winter plowing and sanding on the following roads during the winter months:

South Shore Drive	1500 feet
Ridge Lane	900 feet
Rolfe Pond Road	2000 feet
Salachar Road	500 feet
Perch Lane	700 feet
Sparrow Lane	1000 feet
Robin Lane	400 feet
Loop Road (off Spring Street)	800 feet

This action shall in no way be interpreted as changing the status of these roads from "private" to "public" roads. It is the general policy of the Town that no work will be done on any private or Class VI highway.

Submitted by Petition.

(Majority Vote Required).

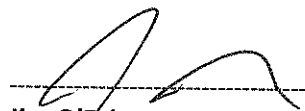
*(The Board of Selectmen **does not** recommend this article (4-1)).*

*(The Budget Committee **does not** recommend this article (9-0)).*

Article 34: To hear the reports of agents, officers and committees, heretofore chosen, to pass any vote relating thereto and to transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.


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Given under our hands and seal this 14th day of February, 2011,


_____, Chair
Jim O'Brien



Tom Congoran



George Langwasser




Chris Lawless

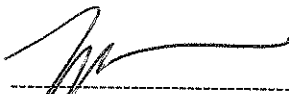


Bryan L. Pellerin


Board of Selectmen, Hopkinton, New Hampshire

Attest:


_____, Chair
Jim O'Brien



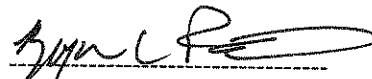
Tom Congoran



George Langwasser



Chris Lawless



Bryan L. Pellerin

Board of Selectmen, Hopkinton, New Hampshire